

Highlights of the new federal regulations:

- **IEP development:** LEA representative may also be excused from participation under the excusal procedures.
- **IEP development:** Excusal of members requires written informed consent from the parent when the meeting will involve their area; documentation of agreement (in writing) is sufficient for other excusals.
- **IEP notification:** Parent notification, where the child is first entering Part B from Part C, requires statement that parent may request Part C representative participation in the initial IEP meeting
- **Cochlear implants:** While the service of mapping is now specifically excluded as a service, there is a requirement to do routine function checks of the external components in the same way hearing aid functioning is checked.
- **Discipline:** Stay-Put for any disciplinary change of placement is the disciplinary placement while the due process hearing is pending.
- **Discipline:** Pattern of suspension analysis now includes consideration of the similarity of conduct in each incident
- **Highly Qualified:** Inapplicable to private schools that school districts contract with for placements
- **Private School students:** out of state residents attending private schools in Missouri, are included in a school district's child find and proportionate share requirements
- **Due Process Hearings:** numerous changes that will affect districts involved in due process hearing requests, most of which provide more latitude in terms of time-lines to allow for settlement of disputes.
- **Nonacademic participation:** supplementary aids and services determined appropriate and necessary by the IEP team must be provided to allow for nonacademic and extracurricular activities equal participation
- **Surrogate Parents:** Employees of agencies involved in the care of the child, are no longer eligible to serve as an educational surrogate.
- **Child Complaints:** Numerous changes in child complaint procedures, to allow for resolution of dispute without a formal decision and to limit scope of investigation to a one year period.